INTRODUCTORY SIGHT-SINGING SEED MELODIES SEED



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INTRODUCTORY SIGHT-SINGING MELODIES

BY

E. W. NEWTON

GINN & COMPANY

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INTRODUCTION

This book provides easy melodies for the beginning of sight singing. It is designed to accompany the New Educational Music Course, and in order that its purpose may be more readily understood, a brief, comprehensive view of the Course is necessary.

THE AIM OF THE NEW EDUCATIONAL MUSIC COURSE

The aim of this Course is to develop in the pupil an intelligent appreciation and enjoyment of good music, a musical and expressive voice, the ability to read music at sight, and the power of musical interpretation.

To inspire love of good music. To appreciate the power and beauty of music, the pupil must become familiar with well-written music of various kinds in selections that shall be interesting from his own point of view as well as admirable from that of the critical musician. By familiar association with such music and wisely directed study of it the pupil's taste is cultivated and a love of good music is fostered. With this in view the Course provides a great variety of selections culled from the best available sources.

To develop a musical voice. The proper treatment of the child voice is of great importance, and has received the utmost attention in these books. No elaborate scheme of voice culture is desirable or practicable in the elementary schools; but, beginning with the cultivation of the head-tone quality of the child voice through the descending scale, the few simple vital principles which induce breath control, proper tone direction, voice quality, and enunciation are presented in specific voice drills and underlie the material of the entire Course.

In each grade all selections are so placed in pitch and range as to conserve and foster the pupil's voice at that stage of his development. The aim is to establish early and thoroughly a correct use of the voice, in order that the vocal poise shall not be lost when the attention is given to the intellectual demands of sight singing.

To teach sight singing. Sight singing is the process of determining by an act of reasoning the meaning of signs in musical notation, and singing accordingly. When rightly taught, it furnishes the very essence of intellectual training and deserves to rank with any other disciplinary study.

In sight singing, deductions are made conjointly in time and tune. Various intervals in melodic order, the beat, accent, tones of different duration, measure, rhythm, intermediate tones, and the minor mode — in a word, all musical effects — should be experienced before they are represented.

An abundance of attractive sight-singing material is given for reading. New problems are presented one at a time, always carefully graded in difficulty, and thus logical mental progress is assured.

It must be borne in mind that valuable as sight singing is as a disciplinary study, it is, nevertheless, only a means to the use of music as a cultural study, and to that awak-

ening of the æsthetic faculties which is manifested in musical interpretation.

To induce musical interpretation. Musical interpretation is the discovery and expression of the significance and beauty of musical ideas, and it therefore demands the use of material in which there are beauty and meaning to be expressed. This indispensable condition has been abundantly satisfied in the character of the music selected for this Course. Furthermore, aids to interpretation are provided not only in the marks of expression — dynamic and tempo signs, phrase and breath marks — but also in the great care with which the relation of words and music has been considered.

The character of the poem is always a key to the spirit of the music, and a thought-ful study of the verse as to accent, rhyme, phrasing, and the development of climax will reveal the rhythmical form and melodic structure of the music. The poems have been selected with quite as much care as the music, to make sure of intrinsic worth, interest, and beauty from the pupil's standpoint as well as from the literary point of view. In all cases a right and beautiful interpretation of the spirit and content of the words helps to the understanding and expression of the music.

THE MATERIAL OF THE COURSE

A distinguishing feature. A distinguishing feature of the material throughout the Course is that each number illustrates some well-known characteristic of music, racial or individual, and contains that vital quality called *musical content*, which appeals to the inexperienced learner as well as to the trained musician.

Basis of choice. Aside from the elements in notation of music, which are noted as they occur in the Course, there has been in the choice of material a constant recognition of the ideal development of the pupil. This includes the physical development resulting from deep breathing, the intellectual development involved in a systematic study of the subject, and the subtle development of character which comes from familiarity with good music.

THE PLAN OF THE COURSE

In planning the New Educational Music Course the editors have kept constantly in mind the fourfold object of the Course and the results which may reasonably be expected in the average public-school environment.

Arrangement of the material, an outline for study. The books are adapted for study, page after page, as arranged in the successive readers. Where teachers find it advisable or desirable to vary the order of presentation, to give special attention to one problem rather than another, or to carry on several lines of study simultaneously, the grouping

of the material makes such adjustment an easy matter. In this case the index serves

as a guide.

Suggestive headings. As a further help to the grade teacher, chapter headings and marginal notes make clear the special rhythmic and melodic problems in process of development. The marginal notes accompany only the melodies which contain the *first* representation of the problem named, except in Part I of the First Reader, where marginal notes are duplicated in each of the nine common keys.

The glossary, a helpful guide. Each reader of the Course contains a glossary, representing and defining all musical signs and terms appearing in that reader. It is an authority upon which teacher and pupil may depend. At the same time it summarizes for the teacher the technical work which study of the reader develops. The glossaries of the successive books contain such analysis as may logically be presented in connection with the books.

Introductory Sight-Singing Melodies

Introductory Sight-Singing Melodies provides study for the second grade.

It is equally divided among the nine common keys, — C, G, F, D, B-flat, A, E-flat, E, and A-flat. Each key begins with the simplest melodies and progresses with the

same degree of difficulty. Of the eight familiar rhythmic types (when d = the beat unit)

only the first rhythmic type,

one sound to the beat, represented by the quarter note, is presented in Parts I, II, and III. The first rhythmic type, one sound to the beat, represented by the eighth note, is presented in Part IV.

Melodic intervals (aside from stepwise progressions), as used by the masters of song, fall naturally into three groups — very frequent intervals, frequent intervals, and infrequent intervals. The first two groups only are here illustrated — very frequent intervals, 1-3, 3-5, 5-8, 1-8, 5-3, 7-2, 2-5, 5-2, 5-7, 3-8; and frequent intervals,

1-5, 3-6, 5-7, 2-4, 4-7, 5-4, 4-6, 6-8, 1-4, 5-5.

The melodies presented are pure, simple, complete, and attractive. Not only were they selected with the view of illustrating the simple problems of time and tune, but they were also required to pass the strictest tests as to their own inherent value as music. They have been approved by the best melodic experts, who were purposely kept in ignorance of the educational nature of their use. That the child may easily grasp its meaning, each melody is phrased. Many of the selections are musical settings of carefully selected verse.

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PART I

MELODIES FOR THE BEGINNING OF SIGHT SINGING; TWO-QUARTER MEASURE; RHYTHMIC TYPE, ONE SOUND TO THE BEAT, REPRESENTED BY THE QUARTER NOTE; NINE COMMON KEYS

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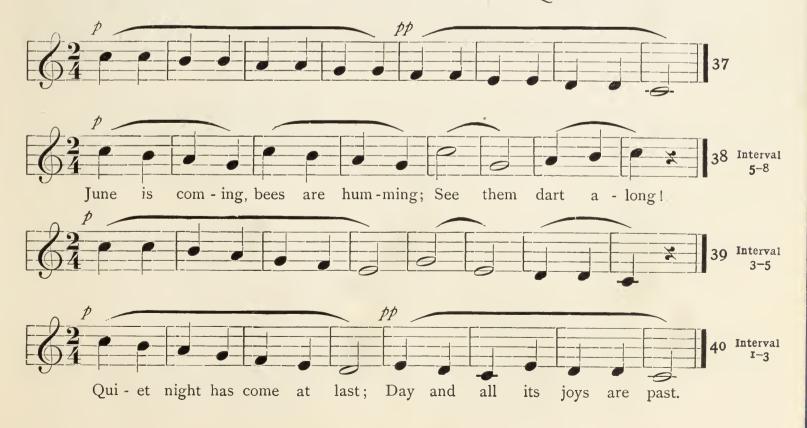








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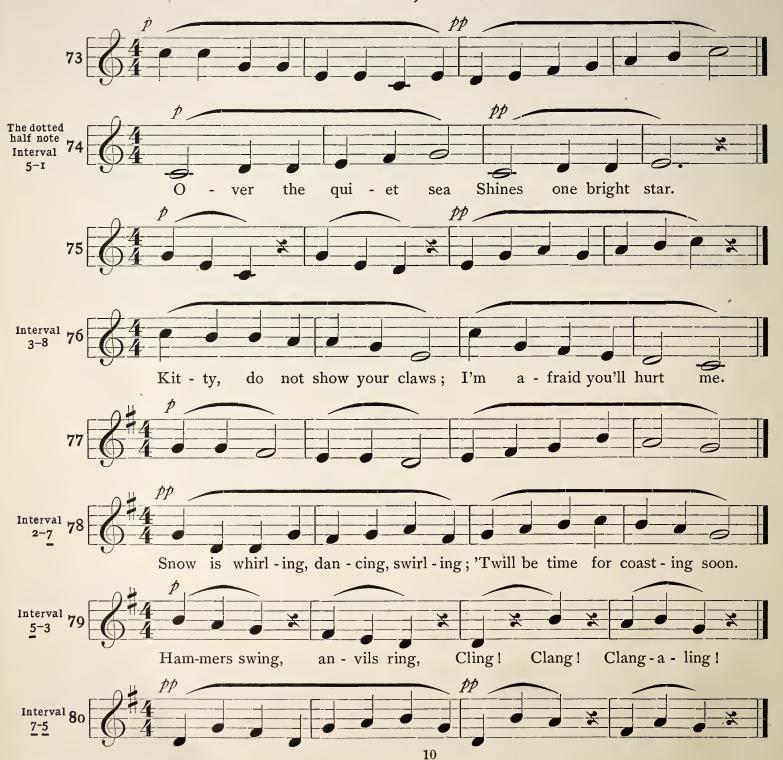




PART II

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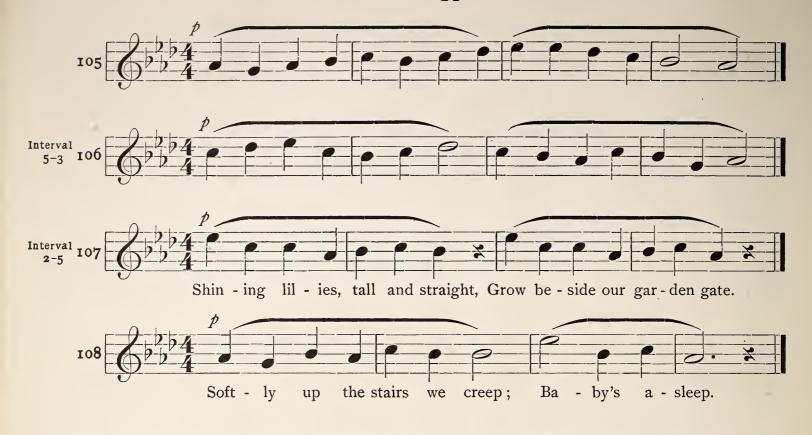
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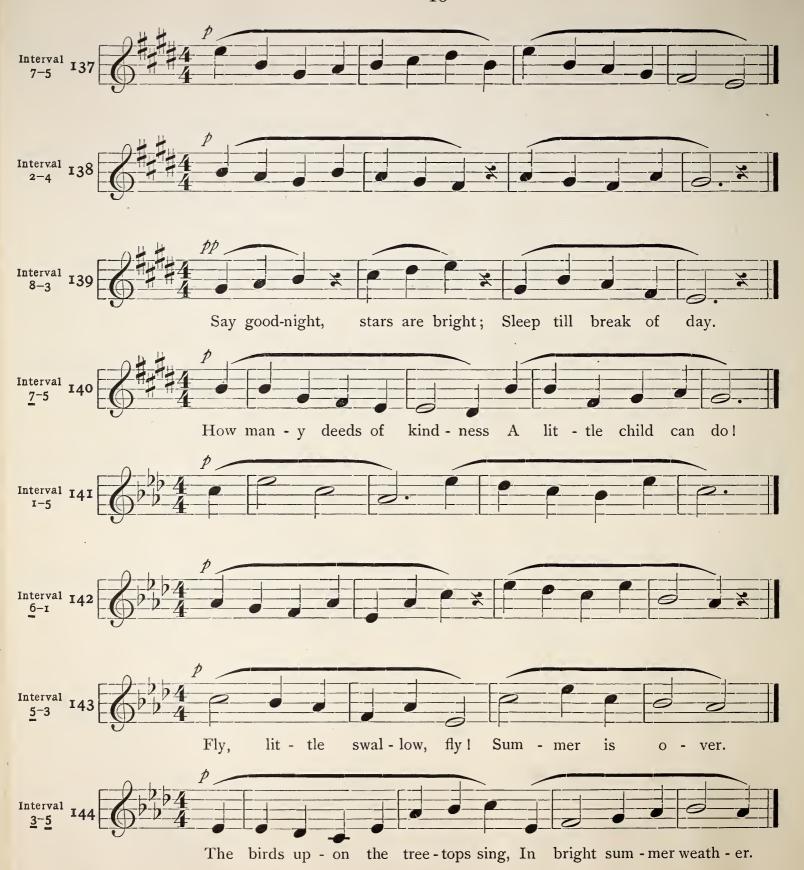
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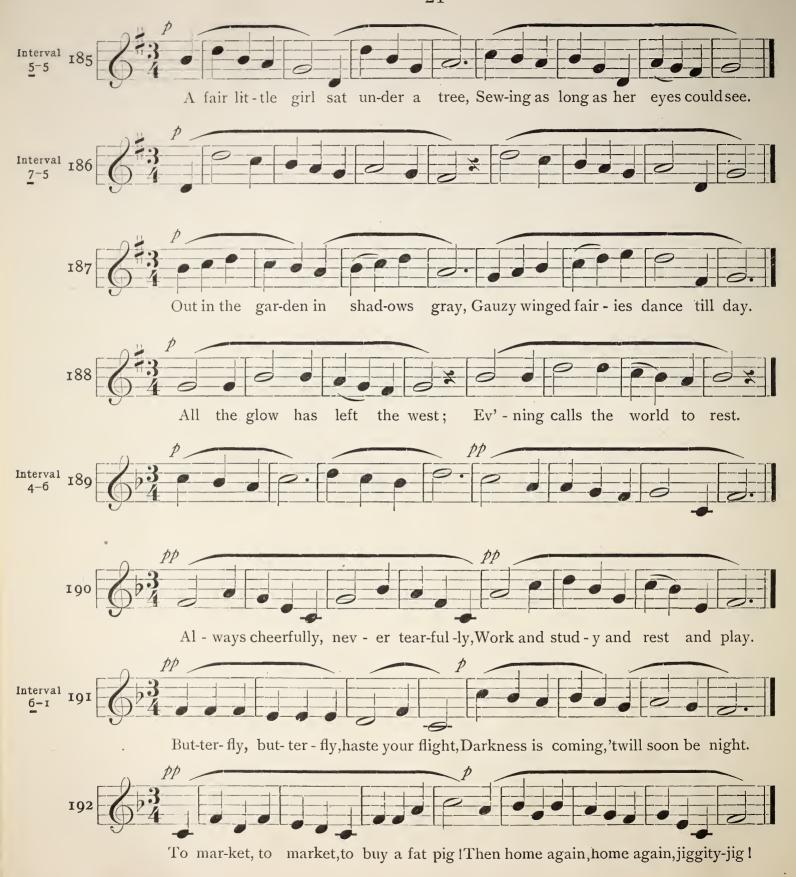


















CHAPTER II — REVIEW OF FOUR-QUARTER MEASURE; NINE COMMON KEYS











Ros - es blos - som at our feet, The world's a love - ly gar - den



Close be-side the flow-ing riv-er Lies a bow-er fair to see. Dain-ty birch-es, all a-quiv-er, Fill the place with

beau - ty.



The Queen of Hearts she made some tarts, so they say, so they say;

The Knave of Hearts he stole those tarts,

Then he ran a - way.



CHAPTER III — MELODIC SCALE-PROGRESSIONS; NINE COMMON KEYS





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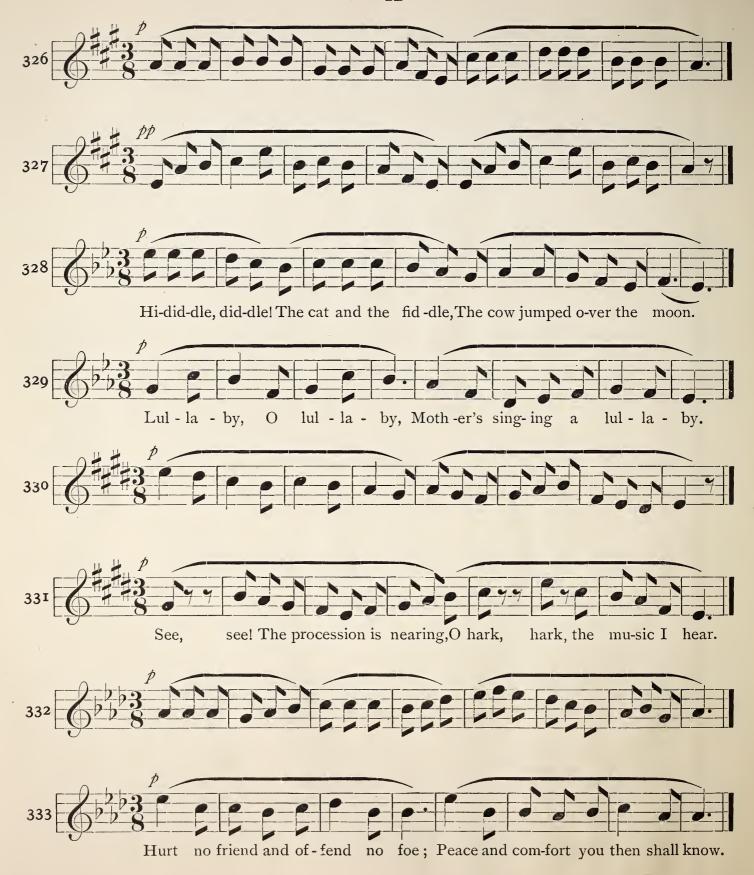
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THREE-EIGHTH MEASURE; RHYTHMIC TYPE, ONE SOUND TO THE BEAT, REPRESENTED BY THE EIGHTH NOTE; NINE COMMON KEYS; MELODIES ILLUSTRATING FREQUENT INTERVALS, CONTINUED



Flowers are spring-ing, Fai - ry bells ring-ing, Bluebirds are sing-ing, May days are here.







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